

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Push/Pull Clip Feed Configuration For Selectively Delivering Or Withdrawing A Clip To Allow Output Of One Clip Alone Or Two Clips Concurrently And Associated Devices, Methods, Systems And Computer Program Products**, the specification of which is being filed concurrently herewith or has been filed in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. We hereby authorize and request Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A., to insert here in parentheses (Application No. _____, filed _____) the application number and filing date of said application when known and then file this Declaration and Power of Attorney or to file this Declaration and Power of Attorney concurrently with the application.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information that became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f), or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or § 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

| | | | |
|--------|---------|------------------|--|
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Number | Country | MM/DD/YYYY Filed | Priority Claimed |

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.9389-2

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 60/470,327 | May 14, 2003 |
| Application Number(s) | Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY) |
| | |
| Application Number(s) | Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY) |

Comment: If no provisional applications have been filed, type "none" in the first blank.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) or § 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below.

| | | |
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| Application No. | Filing Date | Status Patented/Pending/Abandoned |
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| Application No. | Filing Date | Status Patented/Pending/Abandoned |

Comment: If there are no U.S. priority documents (i.e., parent application(s)), type "none" in the first blank.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered attorney(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. I also appoint the following registered attorney(s) to represent me before all competent International Authorities in connection with any and all international applications filed by me with an appropriate receiving office claiming priority to the U.S. application. I also appoint the following registered attorney(s) to make or receive payment on my behalf in connection with the filing of such international applications.

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Inventor's
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Comment: Because of rules in some foreign countries and the fact that this declaration may eventually be used with a foreign application, do not use middle initials or the designation (NMN) if there is no middle name. Either use the full middle name or omit the initials.

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Full name of second inventor: W. Mark Poteat

Inventor's
Signature: W. Mark Poteat Date: 4/5/04

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